



7 January 2009

Michael Bimmler
request-4509-030d9e83@whatdotheyknow.com
(by email only)

Dear Mr Bimmler,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Thank you for your email of 4 December 2008, in which you made the following request:

I would like to request all records held by the Cabinet Office or Downing Street 10 pertaining to the arrest of Mr Damian Green MP and the search of his offices including the preparation and evaluation of these actions. This request covers but is not limited to

*Written communication to which the Cabinet Office or Downing Street 10 was party or was copied on (eg. correspondence by and with the Home Office, the MPS, the House of Commons authorities and the Greater London Authority)

*Records, memoranda or other notes of conferences or telephone calls in this matter.

Your request for information has been handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

I am writing to advise you that the time limit for responding to your request needs to be extended.

Section 31 of the Act relates to law enforcement. In applying section 31(3) there is a need to balance whether the public interest in maintaining the exclusion of the duty to confirm or deny outweighs the public interest in disclosing whether the department holds information falling within the terms of your request.

By virtue of section 10(3), when public authorities have to consider the balance of the public interest in relation to a request, they do not have to comply with request until such time as it is reasonable in the circumstances. Due to the need to consider, in all the circumstances of the case, where the balance of the public interest lies in relation to your request, we will not be able to respond to your request in full within twenty working days. I consider



that it will take an additional fifteen working days in order to reach a decision on where the balance of public interest lies. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by 28 January 2009. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will keep you informed.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number below in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Sue Gray
Director
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

email: foiteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

You should note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Please contact me if you have any queries about this letter.

*Yours sincerely,
Rebecca Kingston*

REBECCA KINGSTON

